



November 1, 2001

Ann Terbush
National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Protected Resources F/PR1
Permits Division
1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**RE: Protected Species Special Exemption Permits;
Docket No. 001031304-0304-01**

Dear Ms. Terbusli:

As director of the Texas State Aquarium, an accredited member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA), I am writing to fully endorse AZA's comments with regard to the National Marine Fisheries Service's proposed regulations pertaining to the public display of marine mammals.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Regards,

Thomas H. Schmid
Executive Director

Cc: Steve Olson. AZA